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PM tours school for advanced design

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today visited the Centre for Advanced Design, the Southeast Asian affiliate of New York's world-renowned Parsons School of Design.

Dr Mahathir, who spent an hour touring the school, was briefed by its founder Datuk Effendi Norwawi and the school's chairman of Liberal Studies Programme Michael Barrett.

CENfAD, which offers the cutting-edge in design education shaped by Parsons, is managed by Preka Management Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of Encorp Group Sdn Bhd.

To date, CENfAD has invested more than RM6 million in the school located in Jalan Kia Peng. The centre has a two-storey annexe block, a state-of-the-art digital computer laboratory, a library, a tool shop and facilities for video conferencing and distance learning and teaching.

Effendi said CENfAD was committed to making Malaysia the centre of excellence for design in the region by year 2000.

"We believe that Parsons' 101 years' experience in teaching, learning and research will provide us with the platform and impetus for Malaysians to excel and produce world class design," he said.

CENfAD offers a 2+2 twinning programme with Parsons leading to a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Courses include communications, fashion, interior and product design.

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